

## THE ILLINOIS HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES ITS 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PONY UP FOR THE KIDS FUNDRAISER

*Benefiting the IHLA Educational Foundation, Pony up for the Kids will raise money for hospitality industry scholarships*

**ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, ILL. (June, 2017)** -- [The Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association](#) (IHLA) is excited to present its 11<sup>th</sup> annual **Pony Up for the Kids Fundraiser** at Arlington Racetrack, 2200 W. Euclid Ave., on Thursday, July 13 from 12:30 - 5:30 p.m. All proceeds from the event will benefit the [IHLA Educational Foundation](#) (IHLAEF) Scholarship Program, which serves as a leading source of financial assistance for Illinois students pursuing degrees in hospitality. Guests will be invited to enjoy The Beverly D. Suite, a private room and covered walkout terrace with stunning bird's eye views of the track, indulge in the delicious fare and premium cocktails, and enjoy the benefit of a horseracing professional on hand to offer winning selections and betting strategies.

Pony Up for the Kids is the primary fundraising event for IHLAEF's Scholarship Program, which has served as a leading scholarship in the hospitality arena since its start in 1992. Since its launch, IHLAEF has awarded over \$400,000 to deserving students expressing a desire to obtain a career in the hotel and hospitality industry. In addition to providing financial assistance, IHLAEF scholarships also put students in better positions to network, gain visibility, and advance in the industry.

Tickets for the Pony Up for the Kids Fundraiser will include admission to the park, admission into exclusive Beverly D. Suite with private terrace & VIP level access, lavish chef's table, premium open bar, daily racing guide, guidance from private horseracing professional, a private teller, and an ideal setting to network with respected names in the Chicagoland hospitality industry. Tickets can be bought individually or in bundles. Individual tickets are \$200 USD each, and bundles range from \$750 USD-\$3,000 USD.

To purchase tickets or learn more about Pony Up for the Kids, please visit <https://ihla.ticketspice.com/ponyup>.

###

### **About IHLA**

The Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association (IHLA) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(6) trade association that represents the lodging industry in Illinois. IHLA members consist of over 500 hotels and their employees throughout the state as well as related industry partners and suppliers. IHLA provides significant benefits to its members by advocating the industry's position on political issues, educating through quality, relevant seminars and webinars, providing promotional exposure and access to current industry news, resources, and contacts through IHLA's website, marketing initiatives, member programs, and networking events, and recognizing hotel employees for their outstanding accomplishments, service, and leadership in the Illinois hospitality and lodging industry.

### **About IHLAEF**

The Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association Educational Foundation (IHLAEF) is the not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) educational arm of the Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association (IHLA). Incorporated in 1992, IHLAEF has been a primary source of scholarship assistance for deserving Illinois college students pursuing hospitality management degrees throughout the country, awarding over \$400,000 since its inception. The Foundation focuses on three major initiatives: Scholarships, Educational Programming, and High School to Career Curriculum and Workforce Development.